



CREATING GOOD JOBS, A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT, AND A FAIR AND THRIVING ECONOMY

September 24, 2020

Alexandra Dunn
Assistant Administrator for the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
(OCSPP)
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460
RE: Safer Choice Program support and EPA reorganization

Dear Administrator Dunn:

The BlueGreen Alliance, a coalition of the nation's largest labor unions and environmental organizations, collectively representing millions of members and supporters, urges the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to protect the Safer Choice Program. The production and use of products made of safer chemicals is key to the health and safety of workers and communities. We are concerned that EPA has already reduced the number of staff hours devoted to Safer Choice and is now planning a reorganization that will further harm this important program and its certification of products made of safest in class chemistries.

Like Energy Star, Safer Choice gives manufacturers a framework for the production of environmentally preferable products. And it gives institutional purchasers and individual consumers the information they need to choose products that are EPA certified as being more environmentally friendly because they are made from safer chemicals. Inherently safer products are the highest goal of the occupational safety and health hierarchy of controls and deserve the full support of your agency.

Instead, we understand that Safer Choice Program staff have already been regularly reassigned to non-Safer Choice duties, and that there is now a plan to move the entire Safer Choice Program to a new Data Gathering & Analysis Division in support of TSCA implementation.

The BlueGreen Alliance strongly supports full implementation of the Toxics Substances Control Act but we urge the EPA to reconsider doing so at the expense of the Safer Choice program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Walsh", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Jason Walsh, Executive Director